Shortage of coal during Tenth Plan

*453. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the Tenth Plan Draft the coal demand of the country in 2006-2007 is projected at 511 million tonnes;

(b) if so, whether there will be shortage of coal as per this report;

(c) whether the private investment will become inevitable; and

(d) if so, whether Government have taken any step in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Coal and Lignite constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of Tenth Five Year Plan has estimated 453.29 million tonnes coal demand in the year 2006-07. The projected coal supply from domestic sources in 2006-07 is 399.73 million tonnes, leaving a gap of 53.56 million tonnes.

(c) and (d) The projected gap between demand and supply at the end of the Tenth Plan and later cannot be fully met by the public sector coal companies in view of resource constraints. As such, it is essential to enable private investment in coal exploration/mining. The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 which seeks to allow Indian companies, including those in the private sector, to carry on exploration/mining of coal and lignite even for non captive and commercial purposes, is pending in Parliament.

Central assistance to Andhra Pradesh for old age pension

*454. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Andhra Pradesh old age pension under Central Pension Scheme is being paid as Central assistance only the State is not contributing anything towards this, whereas most of others States are contributing and paying old age pension at higher rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons cited by State Government in doing so; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase Central assistance to the State so as to enhance old age pension?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU) : (a) to (c) As per the available information, most of the States increase the amount of pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) to make it equal to the rate of pension under their respective State schemes. The rate of pension in Andhra Pradesh under the State Pension Scheme is Rs. 75/- per month per beneficiary, which is at par with the rate under NOAPS. A State-wise Statement is attached. (*See* below).

The National Old Age Pension Scheme, alongwith the National Family Benefit Scheme and the Annapurna Scheme, have been transferred to State Plan *w.e.f.* the year, 2002-03. The Finance Ministry will henceforth release funds to the States as Additional Central Assistance for the transferred schemes.

Statement

Amount of pension under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and State Old Age Pension Schemes

(Amount in Rs. per month)

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Old Age Pension to beneficiaries covered under Central Pension Scheme			
		Amount Paid as Central Assistance	State Contri-bution	Total	Pension paid by State to Others
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75.00	—	75.00	75.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	75.00	75.00	150.00	150.00
3.	Assam	75.00	—	75.00	Nil
4.	Bihar	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	75.00	75.00	150.00	150.00
6.	Goa	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
7.	Gujarat	75.00	200.00	275.00	200.00
8.	Haryana	75.00	125.00	200.00	200.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	75.00	75.00	150.00	150.00

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
10.	J & K	75.00	Nil	75.00	150.00
11.	Jharkhand	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
12.	Karnataka	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
13.	Kerala	75.00	35.00	110.00	Nil
14.	Madhya Pradesh	75.00	75.00	150.00	150.00
15.	Maharashtra	75.00	175.00	250.00	250.00
16.	Manipur	75.00	—	75.00	100.00
17.	Meghalaya	75.00	25.00	100.00	Nil
18.	Mizoram	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
19.	Nagaland	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
20.	Orissa	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
21.	Punjab	75.00	125.00	200.00	200.00
22.	Rajasthan	75.00	125.00	200.00	200.00
23.	Sikkim	75.00	125.00	200.00	Nil
24.	Tamil Nadu	75.00	125.00	200.00	200.00
25.	Tripura	75.00	50.00	125.00	Nil
26.	Uttar Pradesh	75.00	50.00	125.00	125.00
27.	Uttaranchal	75.00	50.00	125.00	125.00
28.	West Bengal	75.00	25.00	100.00	100.00
	Union Territories				
29.	A & N Islands	75.00	Nil	75.00	100.00
30.	Chandigarh	75.00	125.00	200.00	Nil
31.	D & N Haveli	75.00	Nil	75.00	60.00
32.	Daman & Diu	75.00	Nil	75.00	60.00
33.	NCT Delhi	75.00	125.00	200.00	200.00
34.	Lakshadweep	75.00	—	75.00	100.00
35.	Pondicherry	75.00	50.00	125.00	125.00